

THE PROGRESSIVE
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September briefing

More good friends ... "Omega 7," an anti-Castro terrorist group centered in New Jersey, responsible for two murders and a dozen bombings in the past year, has been ordered to lay low. By the United States Government? No—by leaders of anti-Castro exile forces organizing another assault brigade in the Florida Everglades. FBI sources say "Miami heavies" told O-7 to stop the bombings for now in order to get on good terms again with the United States Government. The exiles are saying they expect Ronald Reagan will be elected and the green light will be flashed to try to topple Fidel Castro once again, or to send exile brigades to Nicaragua, El Salvador, and Guatemala. Contacts with the CIA have already begun, the sources say. Meanwhile, El Salvadorean opposition groups charge that government police are being trained by Venezuela.

The United States vs. George Bush? ... The Justice Department is said to be staring at leftover evidence in the Orlando Letelier murder case and mulling a grand jury probe of George Bush, CIA director at the time of the 1976 car-bombing murder of the former Chilean ambassador and a colleague, Ronni Moffitt. Bush may have committed obstruction of justice by not telling FBI investigators what he knew about Chilean killer teams in the United States. The problem for Jimmy Carter: Prosecution of Bush may look "too political" right now.

It figures ... Another book manuscript by a former CIA officer is floating around New York. One of its more interesting tidbits is that the spookdom refused to believe evidence in the early 1960s conclusively predicting the Sino-Soviet split. The reason? If China wanted an alliance with the United States against Moscow, the dirty tricks division of the CIA could no longer justify its immense budget targeting Peking.

—J.S.

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